

MAXIMS
OF A
MERE MAN

The New Testament does not eliminate paganism but substitutes it.

Maxims of a Mere Man

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

The People's Paper Read by Everybody

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

CHARLOTTETOWN, CANADA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1943 8 PAGES

MAXIMS
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The practical effect of a belief is the real test of its soundness.

NAZI'S VITEBSK BASE MENACED BY REDS

800 Planes Level Nazi Arms, Chemical Works

Enemy Fighters Lured Off By Feint Assault; Get Back Too Late.

Churchill Has Praise For R. A. F.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Improvement for the fifth successive day in the condition of Prime Minister Churchill, ill with pneumonia somewhere in the Middle East, was announced today and it was disclosed also that he has been following closely the recent R.A.F. raids on German cities.

A bulletin signed by the doctors attending the prime minister and issued from 10 Downing Street said: "The Prime Minister's condition is improving. The condition of circulation is more satisfactory."

M. Churchill's long-distance jaunts for the R.A.F. raids were disclosed by Sir Archibald Sinclair, secretary of state for air, in a message to air chief Marshal Sir Arthur Harris, chief of the R.A.F. bomber command.

Sir Archibald advised the bomber command chief: "The prime minister, who has been receiving full details of the recent operations, has asked me to convey his congratulations to you for the series of great battles over Berlin and Leipzig and in association with the R.A.F. bombers."

Sir Arthur replied: "Please convey to the Prime Minister our gratitude for his message and his hearty wishes for his speedy convalescence and return. His support, advice and untiring encouragement throughout the past four and a half years has been the mainspring of our effort."

Tells Of Canadian Push Into Ortona

Enter Port Under Cover Of Barrage

War Situation Last Night

By KIRK L. SIMPSON, Associated Press War Analyst

Early Nazi evacuation of the critical Vitebsk anchorage of the beginning of a German retreat from all northwest Russia, seems foreshadowed in Moscow communiqués.

They report Russian troops, Siberian units which are specialists in winter fighting, 20 miles or less from the Vitebsk-Polotsk railway west of Vitebsk, and even closer on the eastern bank to the Vitebsk-Gorodok teacup route. A step or two forward from either direction would bring Russian guns to bear and threaten entrapment of the Vitebsk garrison.

Short of throwing in heavy reserves that obviously cannot be spared from the two threatened points to the south, there seems little chance that a new German retreat on a wide front in upper White Russia can be averted.

With the capture of Gorodok, 20 miles north of Vitebsk up the railroad to Nevel, the week-old Russian offensive in that sector has ripped open a gap nearly 100 miles wide at the Vitebsk-Polotsk railway. It reaches from just north of Vitebsk to north of the Velikie Luki-Riga railway, with Nevel virtually in the centre.

Westward the Nevel bulge runs substantially 100 miles deep for its whole width, by available data, to threaten closely the Polotsk rail and road key to that segment of the German defence line.

Once the Vitebsk anchor point does give way, the whole pattern of the war in northwest Russia from central White Russia to the Baltic will undergo a drastic change by every indication.

South of Vitebsk, the Nazi holding front on the west bank of the Dnieper is keyed to a single road and rail crossroads, Minsk. That junction city, less than 30 miles from the Russian-Polish border and on the Napoleonic route to Moscow, serves all remaining Nazi Dnieper River bastions, from Mogilev, Ruzhicev and Zhitomir to Leningrad. The loss of Vitebsk, and of Polotsk in its rear, would expose Minsk to Russian encirclement from the north and northeast and from the south-east on the Berezina River valley.

The minimum effect of Nazi loss of the Vitebsk anchor would be a threat to the Polotsk and Minsk keys of the entire German behind-the-line communications system north of the tank marshes to the south-west of Vitebsk, and of Polotsk in its rear, would expose Minsk to Russian encirclement from the north and northeast and from the south-east on the Berezina River valley.

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Only 20 Miles From Important Enemy Bastion

Score Is 20 Jap Planes, 6 Allied

Sharp Increase In Price Of Silver Fox Pelts

MONTREAL, Dec. 21.—(Special to the Guardian)—The Canadian Fur Auction Co. Ltd. sale of silver fox pelts was concluded this afternoon with a large attendance present and very keen bidding. Prices ruled high, in fact the average of the sale was almost double that of December, 1942.

Here are the figures for the various lots selected: full silvers averaged \$70.43; regular full silvers averaged \$48.18; inferior types averaged \$33.44; low grades, \$11.82.

Of the 10,000 pelts offered 9,931 were sold. There was a large percentage of inferior in the collection. They actually numbered 3,250 while the low grades numbered 470. The average price of the sale was \$45.03, corresponding to an average of \$22.13 for the same sale over a year ago.

The average price at the last sale of silver fox pelts, held by the company in September, was \$23.43. Silver fox is strong and prices will continue to be firm.

The above information was supplied by Mr. George A. Calbeck, manager of the Fur Marketing Department, Canadian National Fur Traders' Association, Summerside, P.E.I.

London Has Alarm

Horsemeat Prices Are Made Uniform

Chinese Recapture Four Strongholds

CHUNGKING, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Chinese troops have recaptured four important Japanese strongholds north of Tungting Lake, the high command announced today, and apparently have regained control of the rice bowl region south of the Lin River except for a few isolated pockets of resistance.

Linsen, Nanchuan, Ansiang and Tingshih, all of which had been used by the enemy as forward bases for a frustrated offensive against Changde, were the towns the Chinese reported retaken. All had been under several days of direct siege by the Chinese and repeated bombing by the United States 14th Air Force.

39,973 QUESTIONED

OTTAWA, Dec. 21.—(CP)—The Labor Department reported tonight that up to Nov. 30 the Royal Canadian Mounted Police questioned 39,973 men during raids on poolrooms, beer parlors and similar establishments in their drive against delinquents under National Selective Service demobilization regulations.

The department said the campaign is continuing.

Originator Of Who's Who Dies

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Albert Nelson, 80, the man who was credited with getting a new definition of "who's who" in Webster's dictionary, died at his home in suburban Evanston, Ill., today.

Nelson was the originator of "who's who in America," which began as a compilation of 8,802 biographies in 1889 and grew to a tome of 23,239 sketches in 1942.

According to its editors, "who's who" became so well known as a reference book that it was included in the United States that Webster's inserted a definition of "who's who" in recent editions of the dictionary.

Marquis gave himself 36 lines in "who's who," compared with 35 for Franklin D. Roosevelt, 17 for John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and the longest sketch in the book, Nicholas Murray Butler's 129 lines.

U.S. Faces Nation-Wide Rail Strike On Dec. 30

Union Turns Down Roosevelt Suggestion For Settlement.

News Briefs

LONDON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Tightening of British and United States censorship of news items, has vital information on the western invasion is being discussed by censorship authorities of both countries in London.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Leaders of 15 non-operating railroad unions, numbering 1,100,000 workers tonight set Dec. 30 at 6 a.m. for a nation-wide strike in the United States.

The operating brotherhoods, representing 350,000, already had called a strike for the same date, and tonight they rejected a plan put forward by President Roosevelt as a basis for settlement of the wage dispute.

The 15 non-operating union chiefs said 98 per cent of their membership had voted in favor of striking to enforce their wage demands.

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Veal Under Price Ceiling

Scuttled German Fleet, Now Dead

Yugoslav Partisans On Offensive On Wide Front

LONDON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The Axis report, which had no confirmation and was not heard elsewhere, said Jajce was captured Sunday.

A Tito communique told of widespread seizure of the initiative by his forces — carrying on a drive competently described here as one of the great campaigns of the war.

The Partisans, it can be said definitely now, have an army of 250,000 or more men regularly organized in divisions and corps but handicapped by a lack of heavy weapons. They are guided by one of the ablest military intelligence systems functioning in Europe.

Enemy May Destroy Sections Of Rome

2,000 Strike In Montreal

Safe Campaign

NIOSIA, (CP)—During a recent Safety First Week in Cyprus a vigorous campaign was carried out by the Civil and Military authorities in the island to reduce road accidents. Previously it had been apparent that such accidents were on the increase.

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COMING EVENTS

- *Christmas Concert, Kinkora Hall on December 22nd. 12-18-31.
- *Concert in Riverview School, Thursday, December 23rd. 12-22-31.
- *Christmas Concert, St. Mary's School, Lot 22, December 22nd. 12-17-21-22-31.
- *Hunter River School Concert Wednesday, Dec. 22. 12-22-31.
- *Christmas Concert and Dance in any school, Wednesday, December 22nd. 12-21-31.
- *Concert and dance Seven Mile Bay 21 December 22. Proceeds for Red Cross. Starting 8 p.m. 12-21-31.
- *Wanted to buy live and dressed chickens and fowl. Paying top market prices. Island Cold Storage Co. Ltd. 1-26-31.
- *Buying dressed poultry Wednesday each week until further notice. Quigley & Son, St. Peters. 12-21-31.
- *Notice—Christmas week we will be loading live hogs for Davis & Sons Wednesday, 22nd and 23rd in afternoon. Emerald Thursday 22nd forenoon until 11 o'clock. New Year's week. Albany, Wednesday 23rd in afternoon. Emerald 24th in forenoon until 11 o'clock. Signed G. O. Green and A. C. Green. 12-21-41.

Canadian Pulp Output Exceeds Expectations

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Canadian pulp production has exceeded expectations and will permit larger-than-scheduled deliveries to the United States in the first quarter of 1944, the war production board announced today.

Instead, available Canadian newsprint in excess of previously scheduled deliveries of 12,000 tons monthly will be purchased by the United States government as a hedge against possible shortfalls in the last half of the year.

The action will have no effect on the first quarter allotments of newsprint to publishers, announced yesterday. The reserve shipments will be held by the government until the danger of a newsprint crisis is passed.

The Canadian Government advised the W.P.B. that current pulpwood production indicates that at least 200,000 tons of newsprint can be shipped to the U.S. each month. This means that 18,000 or more tons can be placed in stockpile reserves.

The W.P.B. said that the stockpiles, in addition to building up the national reserves which now are dangerously low, will also be a hedge against unforeseen military requirements for pulpwood products.

The Canadian commitment to supply at least 200,000 tons of newsprint each month is specifically limited to the first six months of 1944. The program will be reviewed in mid-1944 on the basis of pulp production at that time.

The American Government's commitment to purchase excess Canadian shipments is limited to the first three months of 1944.

2,000 Strike In Montreal

MONTREAL, Dec. 21.—(CP)—A strike of more than 2,000 municipal clerks and stenographers rounded out its first day with no sign of settlement tonight, but with the possibility that meetings in Quebec tomorrow might bring a resolution of the deadlock.

The white collar workers voted to strike last night to back up demands for wage increases ranging from \$95 to \$500 a year after turning down a provincial government suggestion that the wage problem be submitted to an arbitration board. At present, unmarried workers in the affected departments receive from \$1,020 yearly, and married employees from \$1,200.

The first day of the strike passed quietly in Montreal, but there were increased indications that there would be activity, possibly leading to a settlement, in Quebec tomorrow.

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Smooth Sailing For All your Baking

When you use

BLOSSOM Flour

CANADA

Enemy May Destroy Sections Of Rome

NAPLES, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The Germans, faced with a growing revolt in the occupied areas of Italy, were reported today to have evacuated large sections of Rome, apparently preparing to destroy these areas and perhaps eventually to abandon the capital.

Mr. Roosevelt had proposed that the wage dispute be settled on the basis of giving the employees pay at the rate of one and one-half for all work over 40 hours a week.

Railroad workers are specifically exempted from the wage-hour law which sets a basic 40-hour week for work affecting interstate commerce.

Most of them, under their union contracts, get only "straight time" for the first 48 hours work in any week.

Putting them on a basic 40-hour week would also mean a substantial increase in weekly earnings, but Mr. Roosevelt told his press conference this increase would clearly be within the wage stabilization act.

The President was emphatic that there must not be a railroad strike in the United States. He said he had told representatives of railroad management and the operating brotherhoods that a strike would be the most serious blow which could be directed against the war effort.

MORATORIUM ON DIVORCES


OMAHA, Neb. Dec. 21.—(AP)—Judge Herbert Rhodes announced today he is declaring a Christmas week "moratorium" on divorces in the Douglas County district court, and said he was recommending that any man who is giving his wife for divorce shall take her out to Christmas dinner, buy her flowers, and become reconciled.

As for any woman who is suing for divorce, she should invite her husband "into the home for Christmas, have a Christmas tree for the children, and become reconciled."

Judge Rhodes announced he would hear no divorce cases after tomorrow until Dec. 31.

25 MORE SHOPPING DAYS

ISN'T IT FUNNY THE NUMBER OF RELATIVES YOU CAN DIG UP JUST BEFORE XMAS



Maine—Partly cloudy Wednesday with light snow flurries in mountain sections. Colder in the north and much colder in the south portions. Fair and colder Wednesday night, Thursday fair and continue cold.

High tide this morning at 7:09 and tonight at 7:20. Sun sets this afternoon at 5:21 and rises tomorrow morning at 8:36. New moon Dec. 26, 11:50 p.m. Summerside tide 15 minutes later than Charlottetown.

DAILY AIR SERVICE

Charlottetown — Summerside — Moncton

Leave Charlottetown 7:35 a.m. 12:00 noon. 4:30 p.m. Arrive Summerside 1:10 p.m. 5:45 p.m. 7:05 p.m.

SUNDAY SERVICE

Leave Charlottetown 12 noon. Arrive Charlottetown 3:45 p.m.

LIQUOR STORES TO CLOSE

FREDERICTON, Dec. 21.—(CP)—Liquor stores in New Brunswick will be closed from Thursday night to Monday morning. The New Brunswick liquor control board announced today. The stores were closed during the corresponding period of last year's Christmas season.